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**LYON COUNTY JURISDICTIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACTION PLAN**  
**November 19, 2020**

**PREPARED BY:** Lyon County Managers Office  
Lyon County Emergency Management  
Carson City Health and Human Services

**COPIED TO:** City of Fernley  
City of Yerington  
Lyon County School District  
Central Lyon County Fire Protection District  
Mason Valley Fire Protection District  
North Lyon County Fire Protection District  
Smith Valley Fire Protection District  
South Lyon Medical Center  
Lyon County Department Directors  
Lyon County Elected Officers  
Lyon County Board of Commissioners  
Lyon County Public Health Officer

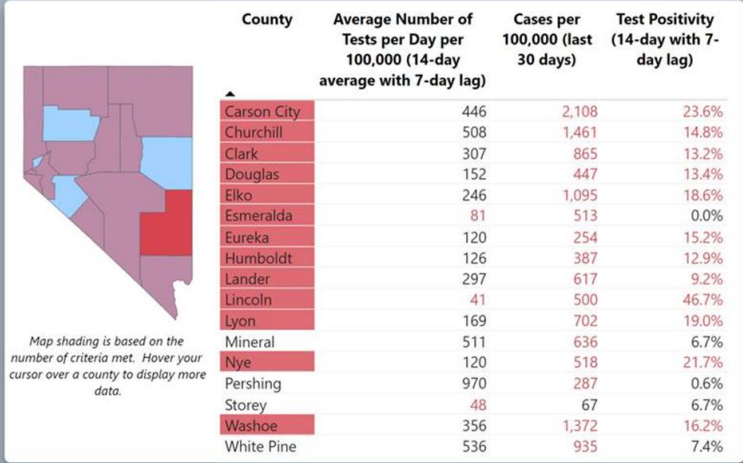
## **OVERALL ASSESSMENT**

Lyon County and the two incorporated cities have been notified that we have hit two out of three of States criteria for future monitoring and have been directed to complete this assessment and action plan.

**County Tracker:** Nevada's counties are diverse in so many ways and have been impacted by COVID-19 differently. In order to ensure that each county is assessed for elevated disease transmission this tracker will be updated daily. Monday snapshots are used for discussion in COVID-19 Mitigation and Management Task Force meetings.

**A county is flagged for elevated disease transmission if it meets two of the three criteria:**

1. **Average number of tests per day (per 100,000) < 100.** The average number of molecular tests conducted in the most recent complete two week period in a county, divided by the number of people living in the county. This number is then multiplied by 100,000 to control for varying populations in counties. Due to reporting delay, this is reported over a 14-day period with a 7-day lag. Counties that average fewer than 100 tests per day will meet this criterion.
2. **Cases (per 100,000) > 200.** The total number of cases diagnosed and reported over a 30-day period divided by the number of people living in the county. This number is then multiplied by 100,000 to control for varying populations in counties. Counties with a case rate greater than 200 per 100,000 will meet this criterion.
3. **Cases (per 100,000) > 50 AND testing positivity > 8.0%.** The total number of positive molecular tests divided by the total number of molecular tests conducted. This number is then multiplied by 100 to get a percentage. Due to reporting delay (which may be different between positive and negative tests), this is reported over a 14-day period with a 7-day lag. Counties with a test positivity > 8.0% paired with case rate greater than 50 per 100,000 will meet this criterion.



Lyon County is a partner with the Quad County Health Care Coalition and is utilizing the services provided by the Carson City Health and Human Services Department. A detailed explanation of this partnership is explained below:

**The complaint process that occurs through the Quad-County COVID-19 Hotline:**

The Quad-County COVID-19 Hotline functions not only to assist callers with scheduling COVID-19 tests and answering questions, but also takes complaints from callers about establishments they feel are not complying with Governor’s directives for COVID-19. These calls include anything from establishments that seem too crowded, not enforcing face coverings, not cleaning or disinfecting appropriately, allowing employees to come into work sick, etc. All complaints for establishments in the quad counties are documented.

Information collected from the caller includes:

- Caller name and phone number (if not anonymous)
- Establishment name
- Establishment address and county
- Date of caller’s visit to the establishment
- Complaint details

If the complaint fits the criteria for an OSHA investigation (hazard to employees by non-compliance in the workplace by employees or by the public), then the Call Center sends the complaint to the State OSHA Office. If the complaint involves any healthcare or medical facility, the complaint is also submitted to the Nevada Bureau for Healthcare Quality and Compliance.

There have not been any Lyon County complaints filed from October 1-November 8, 2020.

### **Quad-County Healthcare Coalition involvement in Lyon County:**

The Quad-County Healthcare Coalition is made up of various healthcare and healthcare-related agencies, including:

- Hospitals
- Long-term care facilities
- Skilled nursing facilities
- Assisted living facilities
- Home healthcare and hospice
- Dialysis centers
- Behavioral health
- Private providers
- Community health clinics
- EMS
- Emergency management
- Public health

The purpose of the coalition is to:

- Build relationships and break down silos between agencies that represent the healthcare system in Carson City, Douglas, Lyon and Storey Counties.
- Address issues that impact the community's ability to access quality healthcare services.
- Collaborate and coordinate the efforts of healthcare facilities and community stakeholders to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from hazards impacting the Quad-County region's healthcare community and patients.
- Share information, best practices, and lessons learned between healthcare organizations, as well as healthcare system partners.
- Assist healthcare partners with meeting CMS preparedness rule requirements.

All appropriate agencies in Lyon County have been invited to participate in the Quad-County Healthcare Coalition. At this point in time, Lyon County agencies that participate in the Coalition:

- Banner Health Center in Fernley
- Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) Community Health Services (which include Dayton, Yerington, and Fernley Community Health Clinics)
- Lyon County Emergency Management
- Mason Valley Fire Protection District
- Mason Valley Residence
- Smith Valley Fire Protection District
- South Lyon Medical Center
- Yerington Paiute Tribal Clinic

Activities include attending Coalition meetings/calls, submitting weekly PPE burn rates (if applicable), and submitting weekly COVID-19 testing numbers (if applicable). There are several agencies that may not be located in Lyon County but still serve Lyon County residents, such as home healthcare and hospice agencies and dialysis centers. In addition, Carson City Health and Human Services (CCHHS) and the Quad-County Healthcare Coalition have a good working relationship with the Lyon County School District, and representatives intermittently attend Coalition meetings/calls when possible.

Lyon County is deficient in two of the criteria. Those criteria deal with our rate of positive cases. Based upon the reporting from Caron City Health and Human Services the majority of those positive cases (58%) were from contact with a covid case, visiting a grocery or retail store (32%), and eating at a bar or restaurant (18%). There were two cases associated with the Mason Valley Residence outbreak during this period. Fifty-five percent of cases stated they attended work while symptomatic, potentially leading to worksite spread. Approximately 69% of those that had contact with a COVID case were in a family setting.

## **HOSPITAL CAPACITY**

South Lyon Medical Center's Critical Assess Hospital is licensed and staffed for 14 acute/skilled care beds. The facility also houses a 49 bed skilled nursing facility and three rural health clinics. The emergency department maintains 4 beds; however, the facility plans and remains prepared for a surge in accordance with our surge plan.

The facility does not have an intensive care unit nor does it have intubation respirators. Patients needing these emergent services are transferred to a larger facility capable of treating and maintaining patients with those medical conditions. The facility has obtained and maintains 12 vials of Remdesivir for early interventional treatment of patients with COVID19.

According to our emergency disaster plans, Incident Command was enacted on March 6 and remains active. The command continues to meet at least weekly to provide updates on our current situation and discuss any challenges or concerns. Employee education is completed with online instruction, walk around observation with one to one training, department specific meetings, facility emails and two COVID boards posted in employee locations.

SLMC is currently able to maintain a supply of personal protective equipment capable of sustaining the present census for at least 30 days. The facility is working diligently to improve that supply for sustainability and in preparation of the annual flu season. SLMC utilizes the Battelle CCDC Processing to decontaminate our N95s, thereby extending their use.

SLMC has the ability to perform antibody testing but continues to rely on the State Lab for molecular studies for active disease. The facility's antigen rapid testing was stopped in late September and has not yet been approved for public use. The facility continues to test employees of its' long term care facility at least monthly using molecular studies until an inhouse system is approved.

As of this rendering, SLMC has performed 500 tests, 2 were lost, 69 were positive, 427 were negative and 2 are pending.

SLMC continues to only test symptomatic patients, referring others to the QUAD County COVID hotline. Challenges in testing include limited access to supplies and extended time in obtaining test results. Without immediate access to results, providers will treat suspect patients as confirmed until a test result is received.

SLMC has one staff member trained and qualified as a trace investigator, having completed the state instruction. We have used this process to trace possible exposures within our facility when treating a COVID positive patient. Because confirmatory results can take several days, this is imperative in following our inhouse work force policies requiring monitoring of all staff with a possible contact. Although we have strict guidelines on use of personal protective equipment, any staff member with a possible contact receives additional monitoring for a 14 day period.

SLMC does not currently have the capacity to perform weekly testing in its long term care facility; however, we are testing at least monthly. We have enacted strict infection control processes that have not been reduced since May. Our last facility wide testing in mid-October confirmed all residents remain negative. We have strict strategies including the screening of all employees and residents, no in person visitation, severe social distancing and limiting employee access. We continue to require masks and face shields at all times in all patient or resident care areas.

SLMC works closely with several state agencies to stay current on newest training, regulatory changes, federal guidance and best practice strategies. We also remain flexible in our policies and procedures to ensure immediate change or action when needed.

## **ACCESS TO PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

Lyon County has stored significant PPE for employee use. All employees are required to wear masks/face coverings while working with the public or in public areas. Customer counters have been retrofitted with Plexiglas screening throughout County offices. The County distributes PPE and sanitation equipment to those classifications that have the greatest risk of coming in contact with the public (First responders & administrative

staff). Lyon County maintains an inventory on PPE and has had success with ordering and receiving supplies from Vendors.

First Response agencies and the cities have continued to monitor their respective usage and are ordering their own supplies. Lyon County has not received a requests from any first responder agency or city for PPE for several months.

## TESTING CAPACITY

Carson City Health and Human Services (CCHHS) provides COVID-19 testing to residents of the Quad Counties. For residents showing symptoms, we ask that they call the COVID Hotline Monday through Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm to be scheduled for testing (775-283-4789). Residents without symptoms but still wanting a COVID test can also call the COVID Hotline for testing. At this time, all tests administered by CCHHS are offered at no cost.

Inquiries for testing are prioritized internally. Individual's experiences symptoms are the top testing priority and are often scheduled the same day for a COVID-19 test at CCHHS. Afterwards, inquiries are then prioritized by exposure to confirmed positive (within 6 ft. of a known case for 15 minutes cumulative, within a 24-hour period) followed by house hold contacts.

Symptoms could range from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with the following symptoms will be prioritized for same day testing at CCHHS:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list is not all inclusive and there could be more symptoms not listed here. Symptoms differ with severity of disease.

**CCHHS Overview of people being tested and efforts:**

November 1<sup>st</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup>, CCHHS tested 279 individuals total, 56 of them were residents of Lyon County.

November 8<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup>, CCHHS tested 252 individuals total, 52 of them were residents of Lyon County.

**Community Based Testing in the Quad County Region**

In order to cast a wider net into the community, CCHHS offers Community Based Testing events which are rotated between the four counties and are held at 14-day intervals.

**November 2020**

For the month of November, there are eight scheduled CBT events which rotate across the Quad County Region. Of these events, two of them are scheduled for Lyon County: November 9<sup>th</sup> at Fernley City Hall and November 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Grocery Outlet in Dayton.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Total Tests Administered</b>	<b>Total Lyon County Residents</b>
November 9, 2020	Fernley City Hall	148	138
November 23, 2020	Dayton Grocery Outlet	N/A	N/A
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**Community Partners**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Out-Patient Total Tests</b>	<b>Long Term Care</b>
South Lyon Medical Center	November 8-15, 2020	2	0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

**CASE INVESTIGATION AND CONTACT TRACING**

**Overview of case investigation and contact tracing workforce**

Upon receipt of a positive laboratory result through Nevada NBS, Nevada State fax notification, or hospital records, the lead epidemiologist collects and verifies contact information. The ordering facility is contacted to gather missing patient contact information. The laboratory results are sent to the disease investigation department. Contact tracers and disease investigators receive these results and attempt to contact the case through phone calls or text messages. When the patient is successfully contacted, the case’s positive results is reviews, and a full case investigation is conducted. The contact tracer or disease investigator then creates a case file, and sends the case their Quarantine Rights and Responsibilities, a legal documentation consent form generated by Carson City Health and Human Services. All cases identified as out of

jurisdiction and out of state are sent to their residing jurisdiction health department. Facilities are responsible for notifying their patients of their COVID laboratory results. If patients test positive for COVID-19, it is the facility’s responsibility to inform the patient that they must quarantine, and their local health department will be in contact with them. Carson City Health and Human Services prioritizes patients that have tested at their facility and any facility events when notifying patients of their positive results. Case reports are sent to the Quad-County Epidemiologist, Quad-County Statistician, Information Officer, and Quad-County Public Health Preparedness Manager. Table 1 shows the amount of contact tracers and disease investigators that are staffed during weekdays and weekends.

**Table 1. Case Investigation / Contact Tracing Schedule**

	Case Investigator and Contact Tracers				
	Oct. 11- Oct. 17	Oct. 18- Oct. 24	Oct. 25- Oct. 31	Nov. 1- Nov. 7	Nov. 8- Nov. 14
<b>Monday- Friday</b>					
Supervisors	1	1	1	1	1
Contact tracers	4	5	5	5	5
<b>Saturday- Sunday</b>					
Supervisors	1	1	1	1	1
Contact tracers	3	4	4	4	4

Quad-County reported cases are monitored daily by the National Guard, contact tracers or volunteers. Data including the case’s signs and symptoms, medical history, location of isolation, hospitalization admissions and/or discharge information, and any household needs is collected and documented. Cases meeting the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines are submitted to be reviewed by a contact tracer supervisor. If all CDC COVID-19 release from isolation criteria are met, the supervisor releases the case from isolation. Difficult cases are reviewed and released by the epidemiologist. Recovered cases are reported to Quad-County Epidemiologist, Quad-County Statistician, Information Officer, and Quad-County Public Health Preparedness Manager. Monitoring of cases from October 17 through November 14, 2020, was conducted by the National Guard each day of the week (Table 2). Upon completion of monitoring cases, National Guard members assist with case investigations.



**Table 2. Case Monitoring Schedule**

		Case Investigator and Contact Tracers				
		Oct. 11- Oct. 17	Oct. 18- Oct. 24	Oct. 25- Oct. 31	Nov. 1- Nov. 7	Nov. 8- Nov. 14
<b>Monday- Friday</b>	National Guard	2	2	2	2	2
	<b>Saturday- Sunday</b>					
	National Guard	1	1	1	1	1

Direct contacts named by cases are documented and reported to Deloitte twice daily. It is Deloitte’s standard operational procedures to contact people named as direct contacts within 24 hours of receiving the report.

Carson City Health and Human Services has hired a Contact Tracing Supervisor who started November 9, 2020 to help with process development and implementation to ensure efficiency in disease investigations and contact tracing. Carson City Health and Human Services hired three new disease investigators in October and one new disease investigator in November to help with the increase of cases experienced across the health jurisdiction. Additionally, interviews are set up for the week of November 16, 2020 to hire two additional part-time disease investigators.

**Percent Positive Cases**

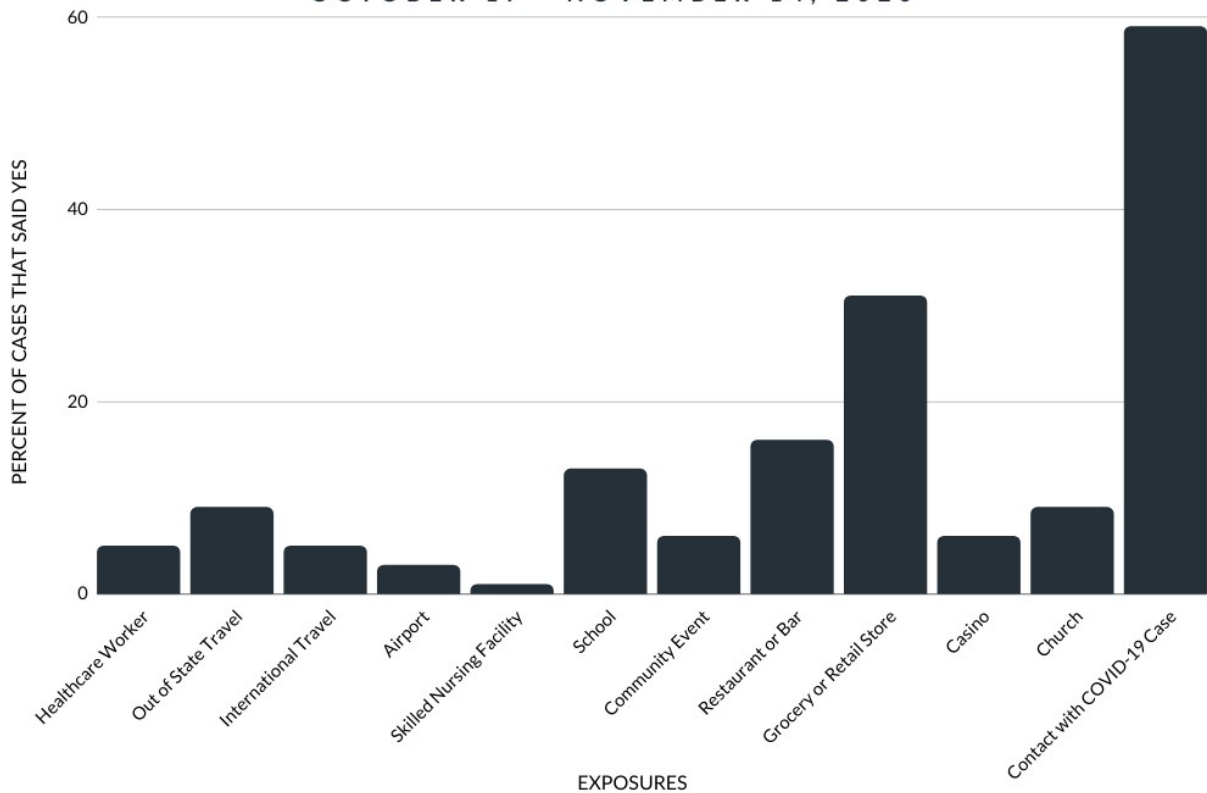
Upon receipt of a positive laboratory result, the disease investigator begins collecting and validating contact information. Many of the laboratory results arrive without the information necessary to begin the case investigation. When data is missing, the ordering facility is contacted for each case to gather this information, included by not limited to phone number and zip code. This often delays the investigation process by approximately one day. Once contact information is received and added, the laboratory result is sent to the contact tracing supervisors. Case investigation data from October 17 through November 14, 2020 was analyzed to determine the length of time between receiving the positive laboratory result and attempted contact of the case. During this period, 18% of cases were successfully contacted within 24 hours, and 32% of cases were contacted within 48 hours.

**Overview of contact tracing findings suggesting high risk areas**

Case investigation data from October 17 through November 14, 2020 was analyzed in order to identify common exposures among Lyon County residents that tested positive for Covid-19 (Graph 1). There were 175 laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases in Lyon County reported during this period. When possible, detailed exposure information was collected from cases. All exposure questions are independent, meaning cases can answer “Yes” to each exposure category. The graph below shows the percentage of respondents that said “yes” to each of the exposure categories.

# LYON COUNTY EXPOSURES

OCTOBER 17 - NOVEMBER 14, 2020



Graph 1: Common Exposures among Covid-19 Cases in Lyon County from October 17 – November 14, 2020

Investigators were able to collect exposure data for COVID-19 cases from October 17 through November 14, 2020. The most common exposures were contact with a COVID-19 case (59%), visiting a grocery or retail store (31%), eating at a bar or restaurant (16%), and attending or working at a school (13%). Lyon county exposure remains relatively constant.

School transmission has remained relatively low, though there has been a slight increase since October 18, 2020. Carson City Health and Human Services reports all school related cases to the Lyon County School District to help elicit close contacts, determine whether or not the case was present at school while infectious, and to help mitigate further spread.

# PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

## OVERVIEW OF INTERVENTION IN SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES

Lyon County has limited authority over private facilities. Lyon County has the ability to suspend or revoke a business license or conditional use permit for those facilities in unincorporated Lyon County. The majority of these facilities are within the jurisdiction of Fernley or Yerington. Lyon County has not observed or been made aware of non-compliance at any of these facilities. SLMC has, since March 2020, locked down their Long-Term Care Facility. We have had no contact with private providers requesting any assistance.

## OVERVIEW OF EFFORTS AND INTERVENTIONS IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

Lyon County Sheriff's Office Detention Facility Covid 19 procedures:

- Individuals are brought into the facility from a number of different agencies besides our own department. Mask are available for all incoming individuals, staff, outside Law Enforcement and inmates.
- During intake the arriving individuals temperature is taken by either detention staff or contracted medical personnel. If an elevated temperature is recorded they are placed in a separate holding cell to be further evaluated by contracted medical personnel. If there is not an elevated temperature the arrestee is move forward in the booking process. Once the temperature check has been completed our contracted medical staff completes the Covid 19 screening questionnaire along with our standard medical screening questions. Depending on the answers received the arrestee will either be moved forward in the booking process or referred out for additional medical.
- If an individual is positive Covid 19 from our presumptive screening they will be taken to the local hospital for further evaluation.
- Inmates who are cleared for booking, show no signs or symptoms and do not have a history are typically housed in a temporary holding cell for as long as possible before they are completely booked and moved to general housing. This is the period of time they can be directly observed by staff.
- Holding areas and all cells in general housing are cleaned a minimum of at least once a day.
- Hand sanitizer and masks are made readily available to all staff.

- Employees have been directed to stay home if they develop any signs or symptoms of being ill. They have also been directed to work very closely with Lyon County Human Resources if any Covid 19 concerns come up.

To date we have not had any confirmed cases inside the detention facility either with staff or inmates.

## OVERVIEW OF EFFORTS AND INTERVENTIONS IN HIGH-RISK COMMUNITIES:

Lyon County has a significant over 65 population, youth population, Hispanic population and Native American population. Lyon County has received no communication from the tribe since the State's Declaration of Emergency. The County is communicating and working with the agricultural producers to ensure communication and compliance and the County has been notified that this community has provided the Nevada Department of Agriculture with their COVID-19 Plans. Lyon County Human Services has been diligent in communicating with the senior population, providing drive up meals and ensuring they understand the issues surrounding COVID-19. Lyon County has reviewed and supported the Boys and Girls Club of Mason Valley (Services provided to Yerington, Silver Springs and Dayton and the Lyon County School District with their planning and compliance efforts.

Lyon County closed all Senior Centers and community centers since March of 2020. Lyon County has cancelled all large scale events in unincorporated Lyon County. The Lyon County School District reports minor numbers of students/staff testing positive and reports their internal processes are working. The Boys and Girls Club of Mason Valley (Yerington, Dayton and Silver Springs Sites) report that they have no active cases and their internal processes are working.

## ENFORCEMENT

### LYON COUNTY

#### County Agencies engaged in enforcement:

Lyon County Community Development-Code Enforcement

Lyon County Sheriff's Office

Lyon County Board of Health

#### Observations and compliance rates

Lyon County has not assigned staff to observe the public, businesses or places of worship. Lyon County has eight separate communities and covers 2100 square miles. It is difficult for a single code enforcement officer to conduct observation and address compliance. Complaints about businesses and industries not complying are forwarded to Nevada OSHA

Lyon County staff have reported that social distancing and wearing of face coverings appears to be being followed in businesses. Many staff members have provide reports of businesses getting after customers not wearing masks.

During the period in question Lyon County has taken no enforcement action. Since March Lyon County had notified 4 businesses of compliance issues and advised that business licenses could be suspended or revoked. Those businesses have complied.

Lyon County and the two cities continue to cooperate and collaborate with Nevada OSHA, Chambers of Commerce, NGO's and businesses to inform and educate the public on compliance.

Lyon County has utilized social media to continue compliance information sharing. The concern that Lyon County has is that of private gatherings in homes and private properties. Residents are becoming COVID complacent. Lyon County has experienced 13 deaths since March. The public at large does not see the death rate or the positivity rate as a significant factor to change behavior. The public is struggling to work and educate their youth and are frustrated with the many restrictions on their lives.

Lyon County has seen a significant increase in reference to face covering compliance this past week.

## **COUNTY ACTION PLAN**

### **COMMUNITY EDUCATION**

The Carson City Health and Human Services Public Information Officer (PIO) is responsible for creating community education materials, monitoring social media, and ensuring messaging aligns with the Governor's directives and the needs of the community. Through social media analytics and reports, the PIO can determine how the community is responding to various topics, what questions they have, and what misinformation needs to be addressed. Using this information, the PIO develops messaging plans and content to educate the community. To ensure a cohesive, unified message between CCHHS and the state, the PIO participates in weekly Statewide PIO phone calls. These calls allow PIO partners across the state to share pertinent information, their messaging plans for the week, and any messaging or support needed by the state. Collaborating and sharing information with state partners ensures that the messaging aligns across the state and with the Governor's Directives.

Previously, CCHHS has focused on educating the community on contact tracing. Social media messaging and content was created to teach community members about what contact tracing is, what it involves, why it is done, and how it can slow the spread of

infectious diseases such as COVID-19. The main aim of the contact tracing educational campaign was to encourage the community members to answer the call and follow the directions provided by the health authority. This would ultimately reduce the number of contacts lost to follow up. Other CCHHS community education highlighted cloth face coverings; how to wear them, how to create your own, how to remove and clean them, and how cloth face coverings work to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Currently, CCHHS is continuing to promote preventative actions such as wearing a cloth face covering, hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes, practicing social distancing, and staying home when sick. Based on exposure data, CCHHS will use community education to emphasize the importance of staying home when feeling to protect friends, family, coworkers, and communities. As the holidays approach, CCHHS will also provide community education related to the holidays, family gatherings, and actions that should be taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19 during these times.

### **COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

Lyon County will continue to work with our cities, special districts and tribes to ensure a strong public outreach, testing information and compliance processes for businesses and events.

### **COLLABORATION WITH STATE REGULATORS**

Lyon County will continue to support state regulatory agencies (OSHA, NDEP, Health, etc.) with compliance efforts throughout the County.

### **INTERAL OPERATIONS**

Lyon County has and will continue to enforce the directives within the County organization to ensure the wellbeing of our employees and the public that they serve.

### **ENFORCEMENT**

Lyon County has authority over business licenses, conditional use permits and uses of county property. Lyon County will continue to monitor violations of directives and if necessary follow due process to restrict these authorities if necessary.

### **RESOURCES**

Lyon County has and will continue to address PPE and other applicable resource requests following the protocol established by NDEM and CCHHS. Currently we are not asking for any resources or assistance from the State of Nevada or the federal government.

## LARGE GATHERINGS

All large gatherings have been cancelled that occur on County Property. Private large gathering plans are submitted to County Emergency Management and then to Nevada Regulators and Public Health Officer for review.

## CONCLUSION

Lyon County continues to inform the general public of the need to follow directives and universal precautions. Lyon County has seen an increase of families testing positive and we believe that will continue.

Lyon County has and will continue to support the Governor's Directives and not allow any large gatherings above the Governor's threshold. Lyon County has and will continue to support CCHHS with testing and public information.

Lyon County is continuously told that COVID is real but the government's reaction is political. We are unsure of how to combat this on a local level. A bi-partisan message from the State may help.

We are willing to do what is necessary to reduce the impacts of COVID and are open to any suggestions the Task Force may have.